



TICKLE GRASS

BY
BYRON WILLIAMS

I'm Coming Home.

Oh, breath of June from the woodland,
Oh, scent of the stream and fields,
Oh, droning winds that are whispering
Of peace that the country yields—
I'm coming home!

Oh, lilies floating in bayous,
Oh, islands of rustling reed,
Oh, willows bending above them,
Oh, daisies of fragrant mead—
I'm coming home!

Oh, fields that wave like the ocean,
Oh, billows that ebb and flow,
Oh, groves that shelter the birdings,
Oh, banks where the sunsets glow—
I'm coming home!

Oh, maiden fair as the flowers,
With eyes that are soft and blue,
Await to-night by the arbor,
A-tryst for your lover true—
I'm coming home!

What She Needed.

It was at the boarding house table,
and the irresistible young bud from
Chicago was enthusing over a jolly
swim in the lake.

"I haven't been in bathing for
twenty years," sniffed the prim old
maid at the end of the board.

"Why don't you take a bath occa-
sionally," retorted the frivolous one.
"It'll do you good!"

And then the landlady broke the
silence by bringing in the bark meat,
commonly known as sausage.

"Is it all right to kiss a girl to
whom you are not engaged?" asks a
funny feller in a joke. It depends on
the girl. Some girls are all right to
kiss and others take all the amorous
osculation out of a man when he
faces the music and smells young
onions.

A Connecticut politician, thor-
oughly disgusted at the turn of national
politics, announces that he has gone
to the Bible for consolation. This
is the first case on record where a
politician ever went to the Bible for
anything! "God moves in a mysteri-
ous way his wonders to perform!"

Adam, who was the first farmer,
missed a lot of fun because there
were no broken-down automobiles on
the highway in front of the Garden
of Eden. Hence, how could he coldly
refuse to haul them to town with his
zebra?

The mouse never trusts itself to
one hole only. Always have two
ways out of every possible dilemma.
This is especially true for husbands
who are forced to report as to their
whereabouts "last Saturday night!"

A Massachusetts man says the
world will come to an end September
3. If the calamity prognosticator
will hurry the pedal extremity about
three days he will save us \$45. We
always pay our rent on the 1st.

When you see a man with a varic-
ose nose that looks like a vascular
tumor on the end of a base-drum
stick, you may know that he believes
water is fit only for bathing pur-
poses.

The only thing that can outlive a
mortgage is your wife's reference to
the girl you almost married before
you popped to the present incumbent
of your bed and board.

Michigan is a great peach country.
If you don't believe it, attend a picnic
and take a look at the country lassies,
pure and sweet, gathered about the
sandwiches and the cold tongue.

An exchange declares a man went
to sleep with a toothpick in his mouth
and became a human fly trap. Better
set him with a husking peg next time
and catch a mouse.

If we could only see what is best
for ourselves with as keen and ready
a foresight as we see what is good
for others, how much more successful
our lives would be!

In New Jersey a woman got a judg-
ment of one cent because a man kissed
her. Why not take twenty-five
cents down into "Jersey" and corner
the market?

Hurrah! Here's where we lose
our appendicitis! A Paris scientist
says appendicitis is due to a meat
diet! During the strike we can get
no meat!

Voltaire says, "We cannot wish for
that we know not!" This is hardly
necessary, as there are always enough
for which we may wish to keep us
unhappy!

"The eternal feminine doth draw
us on," says Goethe. Isn't this a mis-
take? Didn't the great writer mean,
"The infernal feminine doth draw on
us?"

The traveler in the railway eating
house, with a "sinker" in one hand
and a cup of coffee in the other, is
always a good friend of the doctor.

EASY TO SHARPEN PENCIL.

Simple Contrivance of Englishman
Does Work Well.

As simple as it seems, the task of
properly sharpening a pencil is by no
means a universally understood one.
Few persons who have not given
time and pains to the matter can
really accomplish this in a perfect
manner. An Englishman has patent-
ed in his own country and more lately
in this land, a unique contrivance
which should render the sharpening
process extremely simple. But an
American has gone him one better
and by applying practically the same



principle with the addition of an en-
tirely new idea hopes to solve once
and for all the whole problem of
sharpening pencils, be they hard or
soft, long or short. The above illus-
tration shows the operation of the
affair. The pencil is inserted into a
shank, which allows the to-be-sharp-
ened end to protrude on an inclined
plane, tapering from the exposed lead
to the periphery of the wooden casing
at such an angle as will best serve
the needs of the user. An ordin-
ary knife is then used to shave off wood
and lead along the plane. The chips
and lead dust fall in a receptacle
which insures a tidy performance of
the sharpening process.

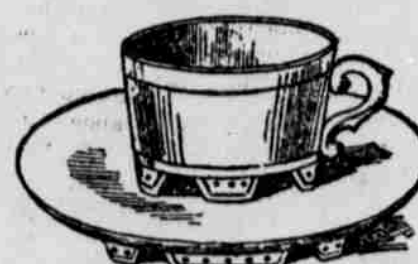
Real Meaning of "Boodle."

Late American dictionaries acknowl-
edge "boodle" as a word. Dr. Murray
quotes from an American paper of
1884: "Sinews of war," "soap," and
other synonyms for campaign boodle
are familiar. There, however,
"boodle" is explained as meaning only
"stock-in-trade," kinship with the
Dutch "boedel," a man's stock of busi-
ness or household goods, being highly
probable. Perhaps "boodle," meaning
a crowd or pack, as in the phrase, "the
whole boodle (or caboodle) of them,"
is the same word. In that sense "bud-
dle" is found in the early seventeenth
century. No doubt it is only a coinci-
dence that there is an old Scotch word
"boddle" or "boddle," meaning a two-
penny piece, and derived from the
name of the mint-master Bothwell.

Loose Wire Does Much Damage.

A trolley cable three-quarters of an
inch in diameter became slack and
sagged across the railroad track at
Hudson, N. H. It caught an engine
moving at full speed just under the
headlight. Strange to say it did not
break but instead tore up telegraph
poles for some distance and finally
knocked a house off its foundations.
The train was halted with its driving
wheels still revolving.

Invalid's Teacup.



An invalid's teacup has a depression
in the saucer in which a small cube
of lighted charcoal may be placed. By
this means the contents of the cup
can be kept warm for some time. The
cup is raised on feet to secure a cir-
culation of air.

How the Smoker Polishes His Pipe.
"One of the fads of the dyed in the
wool pipe smoker is to have a daz-
zling polish on his pipe, and it's curi-
ous how he puts the gloss on," said
a tobacco dealer.

"Watch a veteran pipe smoker
closely, and you occasionally see him
rub the bowl of his pipe against his
face, usually on each side of his nose.
That's how he puts the polish on. The
heat of the briar and the oil of the
skin against which it is rubbed, work
up a rich gloss. A smoker's favorite
pipe, you will find, has the sheen of
rosewood. It takes months of rubbing
to work up a looking glass polish, and
the longer the practice is indulged in
the more shiny the pipe becomes. I
don't know who originated the idea,
but all old smokers are onto it, and
the pride they take in their polished
pipes is amazing."

Valuable Aid to Divers.

Glass-bottom boats as substitutes
for divers in exploring shipwrecks and
other submarine purposes are sug-
gested by a correspondent of the New
York Times.

TRAP TO CATCH MOSQUITOES.

Kentuckian Has a Device He Thinks
Will Exterminate Pests.

Now that mosquito time is here, a
description of a newly invented mos-
quito trap will be of interest. A mos-
quito trap is a novelty in its way, it
being generally understood that hu-
man ingenuity did not reach the point
of trapping this wily insect. However,
such an invention will probably soon
be placed on the market.

The trap in question is a box about
a foot square, and made of plain wire
screening, latticed like a window
shutter. The merit of the invention,
however, lies within, where there is
a small automatic music box, which,
when set in motion, makes a noise
similar to that made by a person
breathing in sleep. Around this box
is a gummy substance, which is calcu-
lated to hold and poison the insect the
moment it lights. The invention is
based on the theory that mosquitoes
are attracted to human beings by the
wheezing noise made when sleeping.
—Louisville Herald.

CURIOSITIES OF THE SEA.

Showing How Oysters Attach Them-
selves to Foreign Objects.

The facility with which oysters at-
tach themselves to leather is shown
by the picture of a child's shoe very
well covered. The oyster growing out
of the bowl of an old clay pipe has
just issued and is a veritable bit of
nature's sculpture accomplished be-
neath the sea. These are but a few
of many interesting specimens of
oyster-attachment dredged up from
oyster beds, yet they give a complete
demonstration of the readiness of this
bivalve to attach itself to anything.



A Child's Shoe Covered With Oysters.



Oyster Fastened to a Pipe-Bowl.
and show, besides, some of the curi-
osities that are to be found beneath
the surface of the water.—Montreal
Herald.

Turkish Ladies Are Smokers.

Ladies of the highest rank in Tur-
key are often inveterate smokers.
The habit is a very ancient one and
is so general that the woman who
does not smoke is the exception. The
tobacco is usually taken with the pipe
of native design. Every woman has
her own pipe and many of these are
valuable, being decorated with elabo-
rate carvings. A Turkish lady—that is
to say, one who is not hampered with
household cares—will usually spend
many hours each day over her pipe.
The cigarette is also smoked by Tur-
kish ladies in enormous quantities.

Century Old Cartoon.

A cartoon from a papyrus in the
British museum represents a lion and
an ass playing at draughts, the "war
game" of the period. This idea is con-
tinually used by cartoonists, and it is
surprising to find it to be 3,000 years
old. It has been suggested that there
are only five hundred humorous
stories, upon which all other stories



The War Game.

are based. It would seem as if the
ideas for cartoons were also strictly
limited, and that the cartoonists of the
days of the Pharaohs had much the
same ideas as those who to-day are
dealing with modern warfare and
modern political situations.

May Sit on Lover's Lap.

A Montgomery county, Pa., judge
has rendered an important decision—
of especial interest to girls. He has
declared that it was not an offense
for a girl to sit on her lover's lap, and
in charging the jury said: "If every
girl in Montgomery county who sits
upon her lover's lap were to be judged
of ill repute, we should have to blush
for our county." That judge is all
right.

Business Entertaining.

A New York business house reck-
ons its yearly entertainment fund at
about \$100,000. It does an annual
business of more than \$20,000,000. Its
salesmen are bright fellows who con-
trol the trade. One who works alto-
gether on a commission basis makes
\$25,000 a year, but of that spends
\$15,000 in entertaining his customers.



LET NOISE BE ABOLISHED.

The next advance in comfortable
livelihood which science has in store
for humanity is the abolishment of
noise. We expect to see in the near
future the ingenuity and skill of man
displayed in an attempt to still the
roar and crash of city life.

What a beneficence it would be if
noise could be dispelled, or even miti-
gated, in city and town! The rum-
ble of wagons of every description,
the grind and jostle of street cars,
the screech and toot of horn and whis-
tle, all this din that makes it neces-
sary for vendors of all sorts to shriek
in order to attract attention.

The noise of the city is driving
thousands of people mad and shorten-
ing the lives of a multitude of others.
It is the noise of the city that gives
the country its chief attraction. The
stillness of the country, what a bene-
diction it is after months of city ex-
perience! To sleep in a country
house where all is still, where silence
is unbroken save by the baying of
a dog or the cry of some night bird!
Stillness is a marvelous luxury to
the denizens of the city. There must
be some way to put a quietus to this
intolerable pandemonium. — Medical
Talk.

VALUE OF A SUNNY SOUL.

The world is too full of sadness and
sorrow, misery and sickness; it needs
more sunshine; it needs cheerful lives
which radiate gladness; it needs en-
couragers who will lift and not bear
down, who will encourage, not dis-
courage.

Who can estimate the value of a
sunny soul who scatters gladness and
good cheer wherever he goes, instead
of gloom and sadness? Everybody is
attracted to these cheerful faces and
sunny lives, and repelled by the
gloomy, the morose and the sad. We
envy people who radiate cheer wher-
ever they go and fling out gladness
from every pore. Money, houses and
lands look contemptible beside such
a disposition. The ability to radiate
sunshine is a greater power than
beauty, or than mere mental accom-
plishments.—Success.

MACAULAY ON SUNDAY REST.

Speaking on "The ten hours' bill,"
Lord Macaulay said: "We are not
poorer, but richer, because we have,
through many ages, rested from our
labor one day in seven. That day is
not lost. While industry is suspended,
while the plow lies in the furrow,
while the exchange is silent, while no
smoke ascends from the factory, a
process is going on quite as important
to the wealth of nations as any pro-
cess which is performed on more busy
days. Man, the machine of ma-
chines—the machine, compared with
which all the contrivances of the
Watts and Arkwrights are worthless
—is repairing and winding up, so that
he returns to his labors on the Mon-
day with clearer intellect, with liveli-
er spirits, with renewed corporal
vigor."

ORATORY IN THE CAMPAIGN.

Oratory as a compelling force in
a political campaign is duly appre-
ciated by the party managers, who
are on the lookout for every resource
that will add to their vote-getting
power. The "spellbinder" who is
clever enough to size up the temper
of his audience and who knows just
what to say to the ones about him on
any and all occasions is supposed to
be worth all his services cost the
campaign committee. As a student
of the subject has put it, the most
convincing address is one that has
"profundity without obscurity, per-
spicuity without prolixity, ornament
without glare, terseness without bar-
renness, comprehension without dig-
ression, and a great number of other
things without a great number of
other things." But a speaker with
and without all these things is a rare
specimen. There is never near
enough of him to go around.—Boston
Herald.

CHARACTER TO THE FRONT.

The keynote of all the addresses
that have been made lately at college
commencements and at meetings of
business men's associations has been
the development of character. It is
remarkable how this word "charac-
ter" runs through all the recent
speeches and papers. It is as if, by
common impulse, our intellectual lead-
ers had stopped talking about this or
that economic problem, this or that
political issue, and this or that means
of attaining success in life, and had
returned to the development of char-
acter as the one solution of all na-
tional problems.—Wall Street Journal.

WOMEN AND WORK.

The census returns of the United
States show very clearly that women
are pressing forward more and more
into professions and positions former-
ly held by men, and this in our opin-
ion is an excellent sign, although in
some branches of labor there is an
outcry against this usurpation of what
is termed man's prerogative. What
women more particularly require is a
training from an early age which will
enable them to take their own part in
the battle of life when through the
death of those on whom they were de-
pendent, or through misfortune, it be-
comes incumbent on them to provide
for themselves. This early training is
a matter which does not appear to
receive the attention and considera-
tion that it ought, for how many wom-
en are there who can, for example,
compute interest intelligently and ac-
curately; how many are there who are
capable of managing their own af-
fairs, or their own property, if they
have any, with anything like business
capacity? The education of woman
is not complete unless she has as part
of her equipment a knowledge of at
least the rudiments of business. Wom-
en who are blessed with a fair share
of worldly goods need this knowledge
hardly less than those who have to
make their own way in the world, and
who have not the protection and
guardianship of husband and father,
for such women can never be sure
that they may not at any moment be
called upon to earn their own liveli-
hood.—How to Live.

GIVE VEGETARIANISM A TRIAL.

If you were in a cannibal country,
how would you like to be the canni-
balee? To be fed and fattened and slain
and spitted to decorate the interior
of your big brother's? Well, Mr. Ed-
win Markham has told us in a poem
that he reads to everybody and every-
body reads, that man is Brother to
the Ox. Shall we carve our brother?
No, not by the ox-eyes or cow-eyes
of Juno! As for the sheep, how can
anybody see one without thinking of
a lord chancellor? Now, we shouldn't
care to eat a lord chancellor, especial-
ly a particularly tough one like Eldon
or Brougham.

The pig hath a devil. The pig is
unclean. He is too bad to eat. Yet
there are pigs that do great service
and are too good to eat; those sa-
gacious, epicurean noses that hunt the
truffles. Of course, nobody but a Prodi-
gal Son eats veal.

Is there anything in the vegetarian
philosophy? Let's find out. Is it meat
that makes you snap and bite at the
breakfast table? Is it meat that
makes you an affliction unto the wife
of your bosom? Feed upon salads,
like Nebuchadnezzar. Eat berries
with the birds. If worst comes to
worst, buckle your belt tighter. For-
tunately, everybody has a belt to
buckle these days. Let us be mild-
eyed, but not melancholy, Lotus-eat-
ers, no longer ferocious carni-
vores.—New York Sun.

DESTINY IN WAISTCOAT.

The easy-going Harvard undergrad-
uate, left to himself on questions of
dress, will not understand the misery
of his counterpart at Oxford. When
the exam. period approached a week
or so ago, those in power issued an
edict prescribing the dress to be worn
in the examination-room to include a
black coat and a black waistcoat, in
addition to the white tie and the
gown. The British public itself was
appalled at such puritan severity. It
was the black waistcoat, a thing that
all civilization is allowed to doff in
summer, that incited rebellion. Why,
a man's chances in life might be im-
paired because the warmth of a waist-
coat, gratuitously imposed upon him,
prevented him from doing full justice
to his views on the synthetic unity of
appreciation! It might ruin a state.—
Boston Transcript.

THE "THIRTEEN" SUPERSTITION.

Col. John McElroy, an adept in war
statistics, contributes figures to show
that the "silly superstition" attach-
ing to the number thirteen finds no
justification in the records of the civil
war. "It is in evidence just now in
the tiresome clatter about the republi-
can convention being the thirteenth
in the history of the organization." The
war records show, according to
Col. McElroy's curious deductions,
that the total loss of the thirty-one
regiments and batteries bearing the
designation thirteen was 5,504, that
of the same number of regiments and
batteries numbered twelve was 6,775,
while that of those numbered fourteen
was 7,075. Not a regiment or bat-
tery bearing the number thirteen had
any special ill luck, while most of
them escaped with small loss.—Phila-
delphia Ledger.